

### ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  converting enzyme (TACE) is produced, purified, and crystallized. The three-dimensional coordinates of the crystal are obtained by X-ray diffraction. The coordinates can be recorded on a computer readable medium, or are part of a video memory, where they can be used as part of a system for studying for studying TACE. The coordinates are also used in designing, screening, and developing compounds that associate with TACE.

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